

2025 Washington County Opioid Settlement Public Update Meeting

Meeting Information

- Date and time: March 19, 2025 (Wednesday) from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater

Public Health and Environment (PHE) Chief Strategist Representatives

- Rolando Vera | *Correctional Health Nursing Manager*
- Sean Young-Stephens | *Public Health Program Coordinator*

Background

According to the [Memorandum of Agreement](#) that serves as the governing document for Minnesota's opioid settlement funding, counties are required to hold an annual, public meeting with municipalities to receive input and encourage collaboration.

At this meeting, Washington County Public Health and Environment will provide a comprehensive update on the county's opioid settlement funding to date, including highlighting the currently funded programs. The meeting will also include opportunities for attendees to ask questions, provide feedback, and discuss the impact of programs on Washington County communities.

All cities and townships located in Washington County are invited to attend or send a designee. Members of the public are also welcome to attend this meeting.

2025 Washington County Opioid Settlement Public Update Meeting

March 19, 2025



Introductions

- **Rolando Vera**
Correctional Health Nursing Manager
- **Sean Young-Stephens**
Public Health Program Coordinator



Public Health and Environment
Chief Strategist for Opioid
Settlement Funding

Today's Meeting

- Welcome and thank you for being here!
 - Today's meeting is an annual opportunity for Washington County to share updates and receive input from **local cities and townships**
 - The meeting is also open to **members of the public**
- Outline for today:
 - Opioid Settlement Background
 - Update on Washington County's Work
 - Open Time for Questions and Comments

Opioid Settlement Background

Opioid Settlement Funding

National

- A coalition of states reached settlement agreements with major opioid distributors and manufacturers, resolving their role in the opioid crisis
- These companies must pay billions of dollars and change the way they do business

State

- A governing document dictates how funding is distributed in Minnesota – 25% allocated to a state abatement fund
- Requires funding to be spent only on “future opioid remediation activities”

Local

- 75% of the funding coming to Minnesota goes directly to participating local governments
- Public health departments designated as “lead agency and Chief Strategist”

Washington County Funding

- Washington County is currently estimated to receive about \$11.5 million dollars according to the Minnesota Attorney General's Office
- Payments spread over 18 years, but not evenly distributed across years
- Cottage Grove and Woodbury are also receiving direct payments

Update on Washington County's Work

Community Input Survey

- In 2023, we conducted a survey to gather input from community members and relevant professionals
- Specifically sought input from:
 - People with lived experience
 - Disproportionately impacted communities
- Themes we heard:
 - The profound impact of the opioid crisis on our communities
 - The importance of having the community involved in solutions

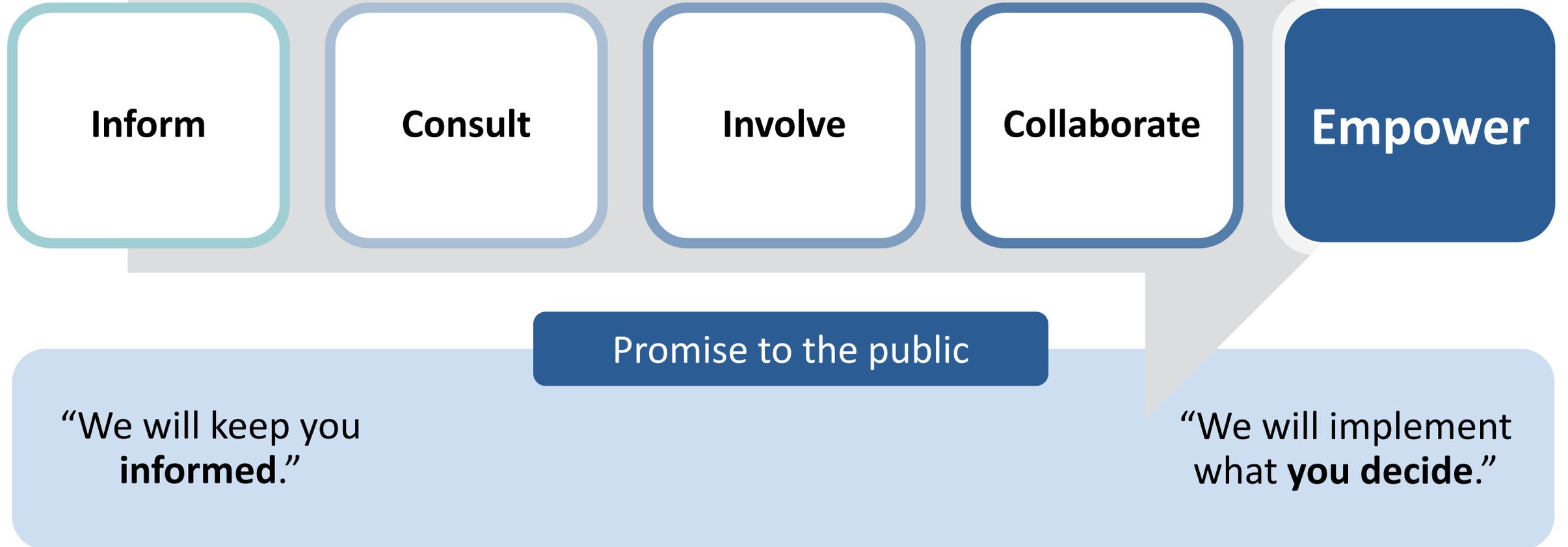
WE NEED YOUR VOICE

Opioid settlement dollars are coming to Washington County.

How do you think the money should be spent?

Take the Community Input Survey

Empowering Community



Source: Spectrum of Public Participation, International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)

Opioid Settlement Council

- On March 12, 2024, the County Board officially established the Opioid Settlement Council and appointed in the initial 15 council members
- The council provides leadership and guidance on Washington County's opioid settlement spending

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council Composition

Community members in our county

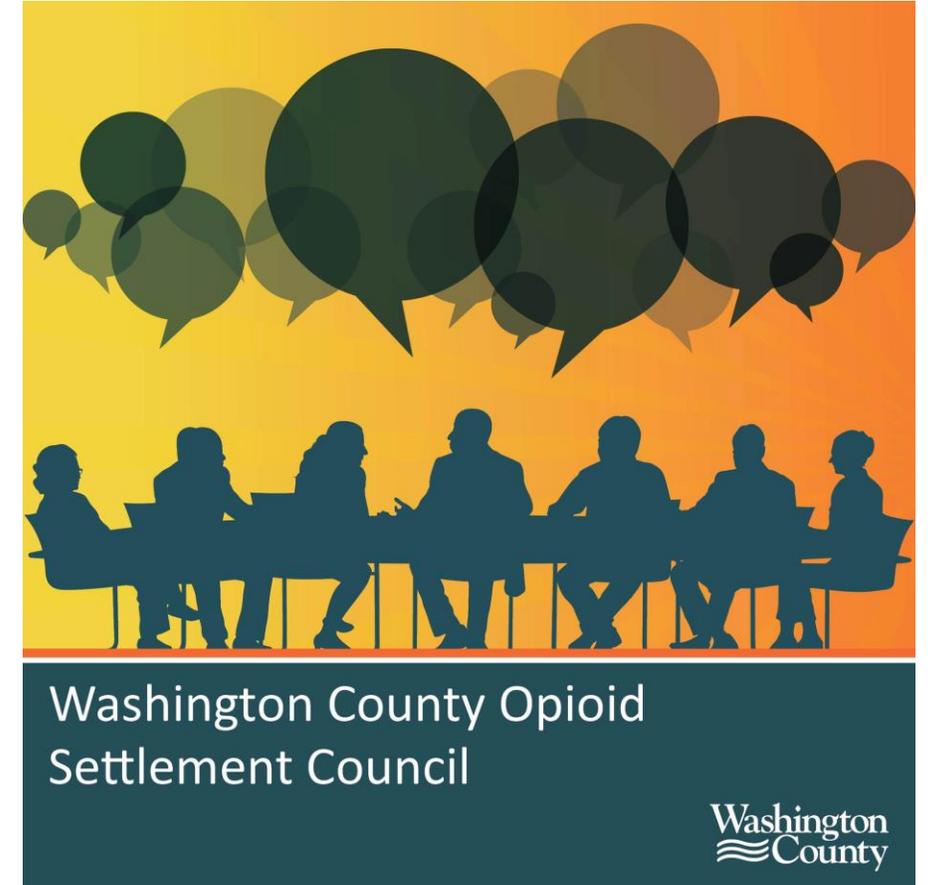
Professional experts across a wide range of sectors

People with lived expertise



Funding Distribution

- In 2024, the first round of funding distribution was conducted
- Used a grant/RFP process designed to be simpler and more accessible to applicants compared to a traditional RFP
- Review and selection was performed by council members, with the final decision on awardees made by council vote
- Council voted to award \$520,000 to fund eight community-based projects



Washington County Opioid
Settlement Council



Funded Projects



Family Recovery Programming

Thrive! Family Recovery Resources



Technology and Access to Care

YourPath



Focused Community Education

ShelettaMakesMeLaugh, LLC



Recovery and Peer Support

WayMakers to Recovery



Hispanic/Latino Community Health

Wellshare International



Education in Rural/Faith Communities

Elim Lutheran Church



Youth Programming in Schools

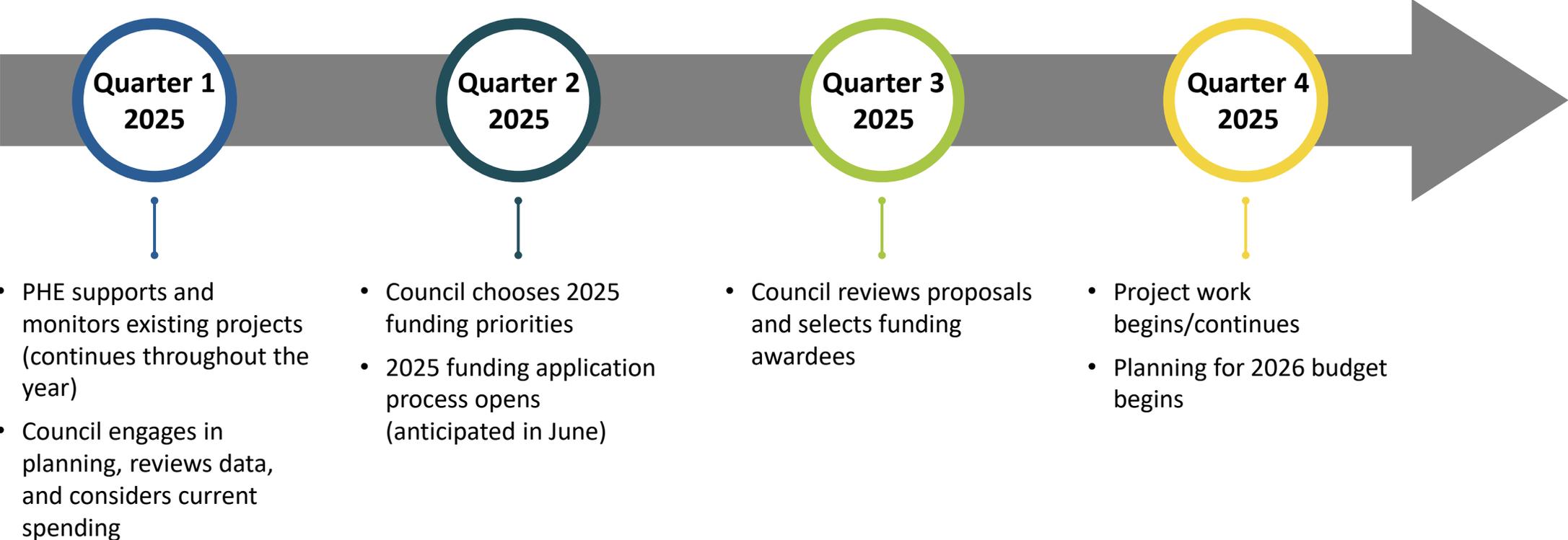
Change the Outcome



Support for Veterans and First Responders

Invisible Wounds Project

2025 Timeline



Open Time for Questions and Comments